

MINUTES OF THE HOLLISTON OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

May 17, 2021

Members Attending: Lixy Carey, PJ Kilkelly, Matt Hodgdon, Ann Marie Pilch, Manu Schwarz, John Vosburg

Guest: Shaw Lively

Ms. Carey, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:05pm.

Ms. Carey read the following into the record:

Pursuant to the Governor's Order Suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c 30A paragraph 20, as well as the Select Board's Emergency Order dated 3/16/2020 the Holliston Open Space Committee will be using remote participation for this meeting. The audio of this meeting is being recorded and will be posted to the Town's webpage within 24 hours in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Action requirement of keeping the public informed of actions during this meeting. I would ask that all participants remotely attending this meeting please state your name for identification purposes each time you speak throughout the meeting.

A roll call vote was taken:

Ms. Carey:	Present
Mr. Kilkelly:	Present
Mr. Hodgdon:	Present
Ms. Pilch:	Present
Ms. Schwarz	Present
Mr. Vosburg	Present

Mr. Vosburg made a motion to approve the minutes of 4/12/21; Mr. Hodgdon seconded. A roll call vote was taken:

Ms. Carey:	Aye
Mr. Kilkelly:	Aye
Mr. Hodgdon:	Aye
Ms. Pilch:	Aye
Ms. Schwarz	Aye
Mr. Vosburg	Aye

Interview with prospective member Shaw Lively

Mr. Lively submitted a letter of interest on April 10, 2021 and was present to explain his interest in the committee. He is interested in preserving open space as well promoting appreciation of open space. He is currently also on the Parks Commission and Conservation Commission but is not renewing his term on

the Conservation Commission. After a brief discussion, Mr. Lively was invited to sit in on the rest of the meeting until the Committee entered executive session.

Promoting Open Space and Conservation

Mr. Hodgdon presented some possible language to include on the Open Space Committee's webpage on the Town's website. Currently only a list of members is included. Ms. Pilch suggested that language explaining what open space is and some of its benefits would also be good to include and offered to send Mr. Hodgdon some notes from a presentation she had previously given. Mr. Vosburg also had some blurbs he would send along. Another suggestion was to include photos of open space properties and possibly a timeline of previous acquisitions. It was suggested to keep the main page short and simple and create links for additional information. Lincoln and West Newbury were cited as examples of good pages. In summary, the page should include photos, a mission statement, a timeline of acquisitions, contact information, and an invitation to contact the committee with questions or if interested in donating or preserving properties for open space.

Town Email Addresses

Town board and committee members are eligible to receive town email addresses. The committee discussed the desirability to make the committee accessible to the public and how this might be helpful. There was some discussion as to whether a group email or individual emails would be best or if a group email could go to all members automatically. One problem with everyone receiving an inquiry is establishing who would respond. Ms. Carey will contact Chris Meo, the town's IT director, to see if a group email is possible.

Other Business

Ms. Pilch mentioned the Winter St. property previously discussed. No action has been taken yet to contact the owner and Ms. Pilch is concerned this may get forgotten. Ms. Carey suggested we discuss this at our next meeting. Ms. Carey also reported that the hoped-for date for closing on Thistledeew Farm's APR is June 30.

At 7:55pm, a motion was made by Mr. Vosburg to go into executive session to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, as the chair has declared that having an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the committee. Mr. Hodgdon seconded. A roll call vote was taken:

Ms. Carey:	Aye
Mr. Kilkelly:	Aye
Mr. Hodgdon:	Aye
Ms. Pilch:	Aye
Ms. Schwarz	Aye
Mr. Vosburg	Aye

The Committee returned to public session at 8:19pm Ms. Pilch made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Hodgdon seconded. A roll call vote was taken:

Ms. Carey:	Aye
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Mr. Kilkelly:	Aye
Mr. Hodgdon:	Aye
Ms. Pilch:	Aye
Ms. Schwarz	Aye
Mr. Vosburg	Aye

The above minutes were approved at a meeting of the Open Space Committee on June 21, 2021